

Pacific Telephone Plans Aid For Growth of Area During 1955

Pacific Telephone plans to help set the pace of growth in Torrance and throughout the Pacific West via its telephone service, President Mark R. Sullivan said this week in the company's annual report for 1954.

"We look at 1954's accomplishments as a good base," Sullivan declared in his letter to shareholders. "From it we are determined that we will not just keep pace with the coast... we want to help set that pace."

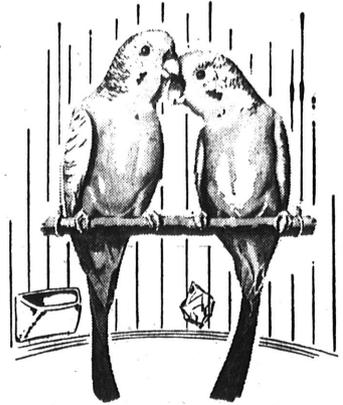
Among the 1954 accomplishments listed by Sullivan was "some progress" in the company's financial position. Earnings on average capital and surplus were 5.90 per cent in 1954, up from 5.46 per cent in 1953.

Expansion Planned
Looking ahead, Sullivan said the telephone company is planning for its greatest expansion in the next two years. The plans call for telephone plant costing a half billion dollars to be built. Nearly one-quarter billion dollars is earmarked for Southern California.

However, the 1954 Pacific Telephone construction program also was large, the report points out. Gross construction for the year hit \$281 million—almost \$100 million in the Southland. Since 1945 the company has spent an average of more than \$3½ million per week.

Other Accomplishments
Also listed among the company's 1954 accomplishments in Southern California:
1. Completion of automatic equipment in downtown Los Angeles which makes it possible for operators to dial customers' calls direct across the country in less than a minute.
2. New building construction or additions to present office buildings in Reseda, Hawthorne, Pasadena, Alhambra, Buena Park, Rialto, Monterey Park, Fontana, San Clemente, and Los Angeles.
3. Construction of a new \$1,350,000 accounting center in Van Nuys to handle monthly tele-

phone bills for Valley subscribers.
4. Change of 49,000 manually-operated telephones to dial in Riverside, Orange, Palmdale, Costa Mesa, Del Mar, and El Segundo.
5. Expansion of the area in which numbers can be dialed without going through the operator for 141,000 subscribers in Los Angeles, Inglewood, Anaheim, Brea, Buena Park, Fullerton, Garden Grove, San Clemente, Santa Ana, Orange, Placentia, Dana Point, and Costa Mesa.
6. Completion of a new dial equipment office, costing \$2¼ million, in Pacific Beach.



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COOL, CALIFORNIA LIVING . . . Mr. and Mrs. Richard Gawne, and daughter Candy, 6, of 260 Calle de Andalucia, relax in a patio which he designed. The Torrance landscape architect won three prizes for design at the California

International Flower Show held this week at Hollywood Park. He took first prizes for patio garden and educational exhibits, and a second prize in overall design.

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School Site Law Change Needed, TEAC Informed

Members of the Torrance Educational Advisory Committee were urged Tuesday to seek state legislation in helping Torrance and other cities to get free school sites.

Mrs. Donald Hauser, chairman of a Torrance Council of PTA committees which has been studying the problem, made this recommendation at the meeting.

Downing O' Cain Named To UCSB Honor List

Two Torrance students in physical education were named to the dean's honor list at University of California at Santa Barbara.

Among the 74 being honored were Charles J. Downing, of 17089 Glenburn Ave., a senior with a 2.97 average, and Jack W. O' Cain, of 1750 Date Ave., a junior with a 2.90 average.

real estate men, and other interested parties convinced her committee that it would be possible to include the price of new school sites in the price of homes and businesses near a proposed school.

Money for Schools
"It is logical to do this," she said. "We must think of our children first. The money spent for schools should go for buildings, not for school sites." The inquiry began as a result of annexation proceedings, she declared. Mrs. Hauser's group felt that the present city of Torrance should not pay for school sites in the new area, if it is annexed.

Should Do Share
"Since that area is seeking to come into Torrance, it is logical that they should do their share," she said.

A committee to assist Mrs. Hauser in furthering studies of possible legislative action was appointed, with Robert T. Plo-

mer and Mrs. Paul Slonecker as members.

The proposed plan would be illegal at present, Mrs. Hauser said, because it would be discriminatory against certain companies and subdivisions. A change in state law would be necessary, she pointed out.

Money Approved for Lomita Blvd. Project

Acquisition of property needed for the widening of Lomita Blvd. between Western Ave. and Woodward St. is 92 per cent completed, it was disclosed last week by County Supervisor Burton W. Chace.

The supervisor made the disclosure as he approved expenditure of \$6,000 for the purchase of one of five remaining parcels to be acquired.

When completed, Lomita Blvd. will be 88 feet wide between these two points.

FOREST LANDS
Forests cover about 84 per cent of Maine's surface.

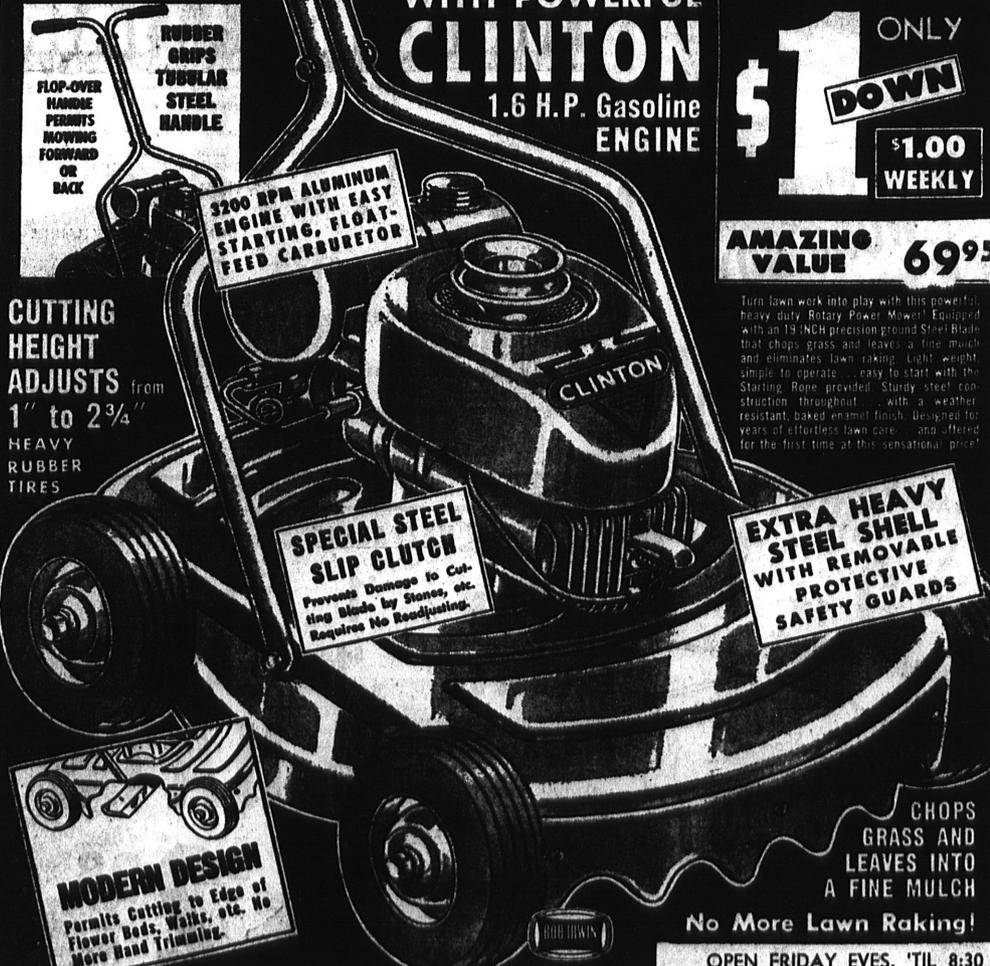
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